

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 39-41 are pending in the present application, with Claim 39 being independent. Claims 1, 4, 6-16, 18, 20, 22, 29, 31, 32, and 34 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 39-41 have been added. Applicants submit that support for these amendments can be found in the original disclosure, and therefore no new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 4, 6-12, 13-16, 18, 20, 22, 29, 31-32 and 34 were objected to due to certain informalities, as explained in the Office Action at pages 4-5. In drafting new Claims 39-41, Applicants have taken the Examiner's comments into consideration and submit that the objections have been overcome. With respect to the Examiner's comment that a plurality of light transmitting sections and a plurality of light shielding sections are needed, Applicants submit that the term "section" is broad enough that a light shielding section can encompass plural light shielding areas of a mask member and an aperture section can encompass plural aperture areas of a mask member. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections are requested.

Claims 6-7, 9-12 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly being based on a disclosure which is not enabling. Applicants submit that the original disclosure is fully enabling for new Claims 39-41. As recited in Claim 39, the present invention includes, *inter alia*, the features of a mask member having an aperture

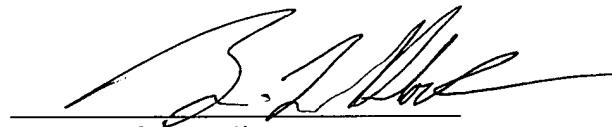
section and a light shielding section and an image display element. The image display element switches between a first synthesized parallax image, which is obtained by alternately arranging with a first order the stripe image for the left eye and a stripe image for the right eye, and a second synthesized parallax image obtained by alternate arranging with a second order which is opposite to the first order the stripe image for the left eye and the stripe image for the right eye. A stereoscopic image can be displayed because the aperture section and the light shielding section of the mask member are changed therebetween in synchronization with the switchover between the first synthesized parallax image and the second synthesized parallax image. In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the disclosure is enabling for the invention as recited in Claims 39-41.

Claims 1, 4, 13, 15-16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 29, 31 and 32 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5, and 7-24 of copending Application No. 09/772,989 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,663,831 (Mashitani et al.) and PCT Patent Publication No. WO 95/05052 (Callan). Since this rejection is provisional, Applicants submit that the rejection should be withdrawn and this application should be passed to issue. Moreover, Applicants submit that there is no motivation or suggestion for one skilled in the art to combine the cited art in the suggested manner. The claims of the '989 application are directed to an arrangement for displaying a synthesized image obtained by synthesizing images that are obtained by dividing an image for a left eye into horizontal striped images and by dividing the image for the right eye into horizontal striped images. On the other hand, Mashitani et al. discloses an arrangement for displaying a synthesized image obtained by synthesizing

images that are obtained by dividing an image for the left eye into vertical striped images and by dividing an image for the right eye into vertical striped images. Accordingly, Applicants submit that it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of Mashitani et al. regarding images divided into vertical stripes with the claims of the '989 application related to images divided into horizontal stripes.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are requested. Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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